

# The Pocahontas Times.

If thou would'st read a lesson that will keep Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep, Go to the woods and hills.—Longfellow.

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## WAYSIDE NOTES

### ON THE WAY TO PRESBYTERY

Some Reflections Brought About by  
Passing Events.

Just before leaving Marlinton for Renick it came near my sad lot to witness the serious and possibly fatal injury of a friend known and esteemed from boyhood Capt. J. C. Gay, vice-president of the Bank of Marlinton. He had driven in from his home beyond Elk Mountain to attend a meeting of the Bank officials when his horse shied at an incoming freight train and overturned the buggy, throwing the parties therein into the side ditch. It is one of the most pleasant of items to report that not the least harm in any respect resulted. When the hour came for boarding the train the time passed as the nation was without special incident but upon entering the car a young friend was found to be one of the passengers on route for Presbytery near Renick, where he was anticipating licensure to preach the gospel. To one somewhat conversant with the history of this candidate for the Holy service of the Gospel ministry, his presence was suggestive of interesting reminiscences and touching thoughts. A devoted christian mother presenting in him the firstling of her flock and her only son to the service and glory of the Redeemer she had loved and served from her early childhood. This mother was the oldest born of a lady, who was taught by Mary Lyon in the world's renowned Mt. Holyoke Seminary, Massachusetts. After the death of her husband, she spent many years caring for her children and managing an ideal home wherein the writer of these notes passed some of the most pleasant days that ever came his way while a seminary student.

After interchanging pleasant greetings and settling down to enjoy the reveries called up, my attention was attracted by a pleasant (and not far from me that seemed familiar but I could not be certain as to whether she was an acquaintance or not. Upon inquiring of a passenger who it was I learned it was a lady I had known from early girlhood. Several years had so transformed her that I failed to recognize in the matronly passenger with one of the last roses of summer pinned to her throat and the thoughtful pensive cast of expression that characterized her features the bright girl that I rarely failed to see at Sunday school and preaching services in years gone by. I approached her and we had a time of it, discussing the changes that had transpired in the Greenbrier Valley the past few dreamlike years that have come and gone in the recent eventful past. It was something phenomenal to see how her soul seemed to be agitated in view of the sorrowful consequences of Sunday travelling likely to desolate our beautiful valley whose quiet dells and shady retreats seem so well fitted to develop what ever is noble and good in the human character, if not repressed by the chilling hardening influence of worldlyness, represented by the rush and roar and trappings of the engines on Sabbath days.

Should I ever meet an artist wishing to paint a truthful ideal of Jephtha's daughter at the moment she realized the thrilling doom that impended her home amid the foot hills of Gilead at the very flood tide of victorious prosperity I would advise him to look this Sabbatarian enthusiast up, and introduce the subject of Sunday travelling and freightage. As long as I live I expect to be haunted by a thrilling memory whose full meaning may it please a kind Providence I may never see or realize but which unborn millions will bewail unless the living people from the palace to the humblest cottage home go down in sack-cloth and ashes and cry mightily to the God of nations

in the midst of wrath to remember mercy.

As Dan was neared a glimpse was had of the fated spot where Messer and Colley grappled in a struggle that resulted in their simultaneous bloody death not so very long since. It seemed to me that I could almost realize Granville Messer as near enough to bid him the time of day as I saw and talked with him at the Marlinton post-office about 24 hours before his death. There was something about that man that had a fascination for me that I cannot explain.

As I reflect upon his character so partially known to me, I am impressed that he was a forerunner of a strenuous type of men, that are rapidly coming into evidence and will find their mission in due time in the pending perilous times of which humanity has been forewarned for so many prophetic centuries, along with the reasons therefor. If the high and the low rich and the poor would heed the portentous Prophectic warnings and consider the reasons therefor and then go down into sackcloth and ashes there need be no perilous times.

This I believe is "The wrath to come", all men have been warned to flee from down the ages. If this be true, then there is a double reason why the nations should stand in awe and sin not. Among the scripture that favor this opinion, the second Psalm and the story of Jonah and Nineveh, furnish ample illustration.

Baggage master Boone calls out "Renick" and that breaks our reveries and closes these notes for the present.

W. T. P.

### A Paradoxical Well

A member from the western bounds of the Presbytery and the writer had some conversation about the Hydraulic Ram that throws the water from the Falling Spring to a point convenient to the church, whence so much cool and refreshing water was brought for the comfort of the thirsty, during the warm and dusty days just closing up. Not to be outdone or surpassed in the way of water supply by anything Greenbrier or Rockbridge could show, he mentioned by way of contrast a well near his home one hundred and fifty feet in depth and supplied twenty or thirty families, when it became necessary to cleanse this paradoxical well, parties would take the bottom out and the well itself would do the rest. After waiting to see if I could explain how a well could be cleansed by knocking the bottom of it, he told how it was done. The well had been bored and used for quite awhile but in course of developing the mines, a tunnel was driven beneath it, thereupon the well was bored deep enough to reach and empty itself into the tunnel. Having washed itself out the opening was securely corked up and the pumping from the top resumed and a more capacious supply than ever was available of very excellent water for that region.

The mast crop is so large this year, the foliage so thick and the corn husks so uncommon heavy, that we have been momentarily expecting somebody or some communication to express the opinion that we were in for one of those exceptionally hard winter which we come every year. We have been living in dread for the past few weeks for fear somebody would start the report, but up to the present moment of time our feelings have been providentially spared. We have a premonition however that some of our correspondent's will find an extra curl in the family poker's tail and will rest neither day or night until he finds the reason therefor, and the same mail which carries his letter saying that the extra kink of the caudal appendage of the old brood sow is directly due to the severity of the coming winter will also bring a dispatch from the city saying the price of coal will go up as the mercury descends.

## GREAT POSSIBILITIES

### OF A RAILWAY FROM WHITE SULPHUR TO DURBIN.

The Greenbrier and Iron Mountain to be Extended to Durbin.

The following a dispatch from White Sulphur to Hinton Daily News.

During this era of great railway construction, one of the most important short lines in West Virginia is the Greenbrier and Iron Mountain, which forms a junction with the C. & O. at this place. It runs northward 60 miles by one of the most feasible routes in the State to Durbin, where the line will connect with the Wabash System and the Greenbrier division of the C. & O. About 20 miles of this new road is completed and in operation and the freight traffic in lumber and logs is quite large. Four miles additional to this line are now being constructed.

This road, when completed, will open for market more than 2,000,000,000 feet of merchantable timber and inexhaustible deposits of high grade iron ore, lime-stone and marble.

Valuable deposits of coal are found in many localities through which this road will be built, but as yet little is known of the area.

Along the projected route of the G. & I. M. Ry., through Pocahontas county, are many groups with countless numbers of the world's greatest healing fountains, stand for medicinal and table use stand without a parallel.

The Sherwood Company, a corporation of West Virginia, owns 100,000 acres of choice virgin forest along the G. & I. M. Ry., and is shipping daily 100,000 feet of logs to the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company's mills at Roncoveite.

The payroll of the Sherwood company exceeds \$10,000 per month and it is one of the most important industries in this part of the State. Over \$25,000 has been expended by the company in developing its iron ore property which geologists find to be the largest and most valuable iron ore field in the South. At a certain place where a cross tunnel has been constructed the iron ore deposits proved to be 150 feet thick. With iron ore, lime stone, and coal all in juxtaposition, pig iron can be produced in this field and marketed with a greater profit than that made anywhere else in the United States.

Shyrook, the present terminus of the road, was named in honor of Thomas J. Shyrook, president of the Greenbrier and Iron Mountain Railway, and St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company at Roncoveite.

Doubtless, the Wabash System will acquire ownership of the G. & I. M. Ry., from Durbin to this place; and going south from here through Monroe county could reach the seaboard by running around the Alleghany mountains instead of crossing it, which would reduce operating expenses below competing lines to the Atlantic coast.

When the Wabash System is completed to the seaboard via this place and the management of that great railway system acquire ownership of the famed White Sulphur Springs, this place will become the Saratoga of the South, and the most valuable mineral springs property on this continent.

Major Montgomery of Montgomery a millionaire coal operator was in Pocahontas last week using the Lion Lithia water at Danmore. We understand that the Major recognizes the valuable curative powers of this water and will interest himself in bringing it before the public. Beside putting the water on the market, a summer resort and watering place is talked of an immense hotel contemplated. Were these springs properly developed and advertised not only would the capital invested be returned undiminished but it would prove a source of prosperity to all who take advantage of opportunities to better their material conditions.

## The Compulsory School Law.

Every person having under his control a child or children between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall cause such child or children to attend some public school for a period of twenty weeks yearly, beginning with the school term. For every neglect of such duty the person offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof before any justice, be fined two dollars for the first offence and five dollars for each subsequent offence, which fines shall be paid into the building fund of the district in which said offence occurs. An offence, as understood in this act, shall consist in a failure to attend school for two days in any week except in case of sickness or death in the pupil's family, or the pupil be otherwise instructed for a like period of time, or except for other reasonable excuse, provided there be a school in session within two miles of the pupil's home by the nearest traveled road.

The board of education of every district or independent district at its first annual meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable may appoint one or more truant officers whose duty it shall be to enforce the provisions of this act. Each officer so appointed shall use due diligence to ascertain any violation of this law and when from personal knowledge or by report or complaint from any resident or teacher of the district under his supervision he believes that any child subject to the provisions of this act is habitually absent from school he shall immediately give written notice to the parents, guardian or custodian of such child that the attendance of such child at school is required, and if within five days such parents, guardian or custodian of said child does not comply with the provisions of this section then such truant officer shall make complaint against such parent, guardian or custodian before the nearest justice of the peace.

Provided, That only one notice shall be required for any child in any year.

Teachers in ungraded schools and principals and superintendents in graded and high schools shall report to truant officers all cases of violation of this act among the enumerated youth in their sub-districts of independent districts and shall furnish any reports and information necessary to a proper hearing of any case before a justice of the peace and all such teachers, principals or superintendents shall assist truant officers in every reasonable way in carrying out the provisions of this act.

Justices shall remit to the sheriff at once all fines collected under the provisions of this act so that they may be credited to the building fund of the proper district and every truant officer shall make to the sheriff an itemized statement, on the last day of each month, of all fine imposed in his jurisdiction.

Said truant officers shall be paid monthly at the rate of two dollars per day for the time actually spent in the discharges of their duties as such officers, but in no case shall payment for any month's services be made until truant officer has filed with the secretary of the board of education a copy of the statement to the sheriff of that month together with a sworn statement of the number of truancy cases investigated and the time actually employed in such duties. When the truant officer has faithfully performed his duties and filed the statements required by this act the board of education, if satisfied the same is correct shall order a warrant to be drawn upon the sheriff for the amount of his month's salary to be paid out of the building fund of the district.

All other acts or parts of acts coming within purview of this act and inconsistent with it are hereby repealed.

**TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY**  
Take Laxative Broom Quinine Tablets  
All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on each box. 25c.

## ATTEMPTED JAIL DELIVERY.

Mason Green Tries to Cut Down Our Jail.

Mason Green, alias Joe Allen, under a life sentence for burglary, came near breaking jail Saturday night. He had come in possession of a saw by some means and had worked several nights without even his fellow prisoners being aware of his intentions. Dave Sharp a United States prisoner, at length had suspicions and gave the warning. Jailer Sheets made a thorough examination of the cell but found only one bar cut. He moved the prisoner to another cell gave him new clothes and kept a watch over him all night. Sunday morning it was discovered that seven or eight rivets has been cut in an upper corner of the cell which was a second story one, and carefully replaced being held in place by small wedges of paper. All that remained to be done was to bend the bars down. The saw or file could not be found, the prisoner claiming to have broken it and thrown it into the sewer pipe. Green claimed to have been at work a whole month cutting the rivets, but the appearance of the work showed it to have been done in the past few days. The prisoner was taken to Moundsville Monday, after being closely guarded two days.

## A Sunday School Outing.

Saturday October 3rd the Joint Sabbath School celebration under the auspices of Messrs. T. A. Sydenstricker and R. W. Hill, in the Kennelwood woods, near Hillsboro proved to be one of the most pleasant of its kind. The weather was ideally perfect the location one of the most beautiful of its kind and the entertainment provided by the ladies was equal to the best, and better than most in quantity and variety. Pastors Dr. Sydenstricker and Rev. Charles Lynch, favored the occasion with their presence and valued assistance. About two hundred persons dined at the ample tables spread for the banquet. After dinner the assembly took things in a free and easy manner according as impulses and offenities prompted. The boys extemporized athletic sports in one section of the grove not far away, lively girls promenaded under the shade of the trees, while the elder people sandwiched by quite a number of choice young people gathered about the pantry now used as a speaker's stand and paid complimentary attention to W. T. Price's address prepared carefully and specially for the occasion by invitation.

At the recent meeting of Greenbrier Presbytery a number of the ministers were taken to test for what might be called the business like appearance of their dress for want of a better term, in a mock resolution against the prevailing custom of discarding the long ministerial coats for the modern short tailed variety. While of course the resolution was a fake, pure and simple and not meant for anything else than a joke, we believe it is a fact the modern minister feels the need of a garment he can give up easily than the long coats of the fathers of the church. The strenuousness of the times in which we live demand the minister as well as the man of business to get out while the grass is yet wet, to use a homely expression.

## Archib Dunlap near Hillsboro

has a number of interesting Indian relics and an old book printed in 1793, being a history of England written in imitation of Bible chronicles. It was brought to this country by the Scotch Irish. One relic is an Indian flint scalping knife the first I have ever seen as well as I can remember. He has also a copy of the original edition of Withers' Border Warfare which has become a very rare book, but according to the Historian Waddell not very reliable on many points.

## Among the Blackberries.

The affection of Mr. Snowball Johnson for Miss Isabella Lee-Watts teacher of the Blackberry school, had taken a decided turn for the worse and many times daily endangered his young life with final extinction from suffocation by continually welling up in throat in large quantities. Her presence even was not required, for Mr. Snowball Johnson's thoughts were of such a depth that they stirred even the bottom of his being, lending wings to his feet to do her bidding. Had he not felt the inefficiency of the efforts by which he had gained advancement in local society, he would have declared himself in a vocal effort that would verily have set at naught the bawling of a pruned calf, but he feared that the effects upon the object of his affection would be otherwise from the impression he intended to convey.

Mr. Snowball Johnson was no common darkey, furnishing the power which gave the weekly County-Sent Courier being, while the editor fed the press to the tune of

"Turn, sinner turn,  
Why will ye die?"

But he realized the inefficiency of the means at hand to make Miss Isabella Lee-Watts appreciate the true volume of his longing for her before she surrendered to the immaculate linen of the hotel waiter or the big role of the railroad nigger. The only thing which kept these rivals from perishing by the edge of Mr. Snowball Johnson's razor was the fear that such summary action would cause the lady pain, which would be more detrimental to Mr. Snowball Johnson's peace of mind than death itself. The affair which came near causing a case of infidelity of its kind and the entertainment provided by the ladies was equal to the best, and better than most in quantity and variety.

The limit and all that remained for Mr. Snowball Johnson was to call the foreigners game or to go from Blackberry and to know the place no more forever.

With fear and trembling did he go into her presence, and humbling himself to the earth, the proud Mr. Snowball Johnson unburdened his heart to the lady unto whom his affections had gone out, and he found as many another has found, rest for his weary soul.

C. B. Rader of Lewisburg had a close call for his life on the yards here Saturday night about ten o'clock. He was down on the yards near the round house and was run down by one of the shifters which crushed his leg off at the ankle. He was picked up and carried to the Hinton Hospital, but on account of his bad pulse the physicians did not operate on him until Sunday noon, when his leg was amputated below the knee and he is resting as comfortable as could be expected under the circumstances. He now has good prospects for recovery.—Hinton News.

Mr. Rader is widely known in Pocahontas having represented a machinery firm and has many friends who will regret to hear of his misfortune.

R. E. Noel, proprietor of the Hinton Marble Works, was in Pocahontas last week, preparing to make this part of the State his most important territory. He has recently had a great deal of trouble with his representative at Charleston who absconded with a large sum of Mr. Noel's money. Mr. Noel got a number of orders while on this trip.

J. F. Hively passed Marlinton Saturday going to Fairview to take up his third session of school at that place. He devoted the summer to intensive farming. From ten bean stalks he threshed a half bushel of beans and raised two and a half bushels of onion sets from a bed containing about 200 square feet. Six stacks of hay did he cut with his own scythe a pretty good record for a man sixty years old.

## The Cost of Success.

The more I see of human affairs and study the laws of social progress, I am impressed with the idea that through the ages one increasing purpose runs and as the sun's progress the thoughts of men are widened in virtue of the lessons of experience. The trouble is however that the thoughts of men cannot widen without risking the greatest pang that jolts humanity and that is the pain of a new idea at its parturition, so to speak.

This appears in the interest shown in the great question of the hour; do trusts and big combinations or mergers of capital, leave the young American man without a show for success, who has no pull to boost him.

In reference to this the thoughtful, observant men of affairs express the opinion, there was never a better opportunity for brains than just now. A moment's reflection, wisely directed makes it just as plain as sunlight that however vast schemes may be, the promoters of those schemes are absolutely dependent upon the brains of others. Hence it is the business man who formerly realized \$10,000 a year as the head of his own concern, now pockets the same amount as a manager, and his job is sure as long as he is faithful and trustworthy with promotion ever in sight. In virtue of this there are two new ideas that hurt some people very much, one is it costs as much to fail as to succeed, the other is never borrow, in order to keep step with men who have more money. Wm. F. King, one of the honorable successful men of the day, attributes his success largely to lessons impressed upon him by his father, when his father took him to the closet where he kept his old shoes and told his boy to take any pair he wanted. The boy took the best that was there. That's right, my son, you can fill good shoes as well as bad ones.

Mr. King says that when he began to work for his own living he was offered three dollars a week, his duties being to empty spittoons sweep the office and run errands. When he asked his employer whether there was any chance for doing better later on, he said to the boy, "you can be president of the establishment if you have the ability."

The boy King went to work with the resolution to be the president some day and cleaned the spittoons, swept and went errands with the prize in view and the requisite brains seemed to be forthcoming as they were needed. The young worker with a weekly income of six dollars, struggling to pay a ten dollar out go wastes in worry the energy he ought to put into his work. To avoid this injurious worry the certain way is not to go in debt.

Whoever would make the best of the grand opportunities of the present, would do well to paste these three things in his hat, viz: keep out of debt, keep out of debt, keep out of debt and what ever else may be requisite for success will take care of itself.

W. T. P.

A farmer of easy going habits and old time methods after considering well the question of working his corn reached the conclusion that the big hills would make corn without work, and the small would amount to nothing anyhow, and so he did not work. The only thing to mar the beauty of this tale, is that the philosopher who advocated this method of raising corn is now an inmate of the county infirmary.

Messrs. Harter Bros. have imported three valuable and well trained bird dogs, preparing to take advantage of the pleasant crop which promises to be exceptionally good this year. Several large conveyances of quail have been seen also. Wing shooting which we are told by adpts is the best of all outdoor sports, has never been practiced in Pocahontas to any extent except by visiting sportsmen.

Bring your job work to this office.